

What is claimed is:

1. A method of advancing a natural casing along the length
of a hollow meat stuffing tube, comprising,
5 placing a hollow natural casing on the outside surface of a
hollow stuffing tube having a meat emulsion discharge
end,
placing a textured continuous belt adjacent and parallel to
the stuffing tube in engagement with the casing on the
10 stuffing tube, and compressively forcing the casing
into engagement with an outside surface of the stuffing
tube, and
rotating the textured continuous belt to slide the casing
towards the discharge end of the stuffing tube.
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2. A machine for stuffing natural casings with emulsion,
comprising,
a hollow meat stuffing tube on the machine having a first
end and a discharge end for extruding emulsion into a
20 natural casing on an outer surface of the stuffing
tube, and
a textured belt assembly mounted adjacent and parallel to
the stuffing tube near the discharge end and having a
continuous belt with a plurality of grooves that loops
25 around a pair of rollers, wherein the textured belt
assembly longitudinally moves the casing about the
stuffing tube and towards the discharge end.
3. The machine of claim 2 wherein the rollers are mounted
30 on fixed axles.

4. The machine of claim 2 wherein only one of the rollers is mounted on a fixed axle such that the textured belt assembly is free to pivot about the fixed axle.